1/16/2012

Dear Mr. Davis,

I am sending this e-mail in support of ADM 2010-22 "Anti Trolling Proposal."   I am an attorney practicing exclusively in the area of family law and have done so for almost 15 years.   In recent years, I have been troubled by attorneys that go through new domestic filings and send letters to unrepresented defendants in an attempt to garner clients.   My primary concern lies with my clients and/or clients that have been in an abusive relationship.   When you represent a client that is a victim of domestic violence, insuring his/her safety is paramount.   In those situations, we make arrangements for clients to be out of the home and/or have another person present when someone is served and/or learns of the domestic case that has been initiated.   These individuals that automatically send letters to defendants upon the filing of a new case and thereby put the defendant on notice that his/her spouse has filed for divorce, puts our clients in grave danger as these defendants are usually notified prior to service and prior to us making arrangements for our client's safety.   We can not just serve a defendant the day a case is filed.   In many situations we have Ex Parte Orders and we need to wait until those are signed by the Judge.   This often can take up to a week.

While I understand that the new proposal requires an attorney to wait 14 days before "trolling" for new clients, I believe even more time is necessary.   Pursuant to the summons, we have 91 days to have someone served.   I would suggest waiting until the defendant is served before the "trolling" can begin, but to insure the safety of our clients, any time that is granted is an improvement over the practices that have been taking place by "trollers."

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.   Thank you for your time.

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